

## News Review

Volume 63, Number 10

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

Thursday, February 3, 2000

Greenbelt Station**History of a Planning Process**

by Virginia Beauchamp

*(The following article is the first of two concerning a process begun by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's planning department and later including all interested parties as they worked together to develop a Sector Plan/SMA for the Greenbelt Metro Station area including the A. H. Smith property.)*

In December 1993 the Greenbelt Metro station at the end of the Green Line opened to the public. Long delayed, the event had been eagerly awaited. Earlier squabbles over where the line should be sited, whether east or west of the University of Maryland campus, had held up construction. Then, once the route alongside the CSX railroad track had been selected, new disagreements arose over guidelines concerning wetlands near the Greenbelt station and the location of the service yard. To reduce the impact on these wetlands, access from the Beltway was limited to a roadway from the west, though the City of Greenbelt lobbied for a full interchange.

As with other Metro stations, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) began studying ways to develop the adjacent land and the air rights over the facility. This initiative, mandated under WMATA's charter as a transit authority, was directed toward increasing revenues

and thus offsetting construction and maintenance costs as well as augmenting ridership.

Whatever explorations were initiated with private developers were carried out secretly. As reported by K. P. ("Dutch") Heinemayer, director of the WMATA Office of Property Development and Management, in a March 1998 work session with the Greenbelt City Council, at least one potential bid at the Greenbelt station had been deemed "not viable" and the deal fell through. In general, difficulty of access to the site was a major deterrent, even though Cherrywood Lane had been widened at the time of construction of the station to accommodate automobile traffic to and from the parking lot.

**1990 Master Plan**

Completion of the Metro station brought renewed attention to the 1990 Langley Park-College Park-Greenbelt Master Plan. Of particular interest was that segment encompassing the Metro lot, which had been left with zoning categories unchanged, though a further planning effort had been anticipated. In the words of a budget document by the Prince George's County Planning Department of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC), future planning would lead, it was thought, to "a higher density mixed-use development adjacent to the sta-

tion."

To initiate the study process for the Greenbelt Metro area, the Planning Department including the A.H. Smith property to the south, in January 1996 assembled a staff team under project facilitator Monty Kolste, chief of design. Their charge was, first, to determine boundaries for the area to be studied, then to begin collection of data. The important next step was to identify stakeholders within and adjacent to the defined area.

**Planning Team**

The team gathered together by Kolste was ethnically diverse, and showed a wide range in technical expertise. They were sensitive to and respectful of the concerns and interests of community participants. Chosen as project leader was Joe Chang of the Urban Design Planning Division of MNCPPC. A native of Taiwan, where he became a registered architect, he later, like Kolste, received a master's degree in urban planning from the University of Illinois.

The transportation resource planner is Harold Foster, an African American who grew up in Washington, D.C. He holds an undergraduate degree in urban and economic geography from Syracuse University and a master's in regional planning from Cornell. Previously he worked for the Metro Oversight Office of the DC Department of

See HISTORY, page 5

**Beat The Rush**

Please give us your copy on Mondays or at least by noon on Tuesdays. We are trying not to get swamped Tuesday nights.

**Council Approves Citizen Speed Watch Program**

by James Giese

It might not be "big brother" watching you, or the police, but it could be your neighbor. Under a new community policing initiative unanimously approved by the Greenbelt City Council at its January 24 meeting, Greenbelt residents will be able to check out a police radar device, set it up on a street, measure the speed of cars and record the license numbers of speeding vehicles.

Turned over to the police, the information will generate letters to the speeders from Chief of Police James Craze telling the car owners (drivers can't be identified in this process) that their vehicles were observed speeding. There are no penalties involved in this program, and the information cannot be used in court. However, the letters of remonstrance will be kept on file in the chief's office, according to Craze, and might be used to produce a more strongly worded follow-up letter, should a violating vehicle be caught a second time.

**"Great"**

"I think that this is great!" Mayor Judith Davis opined after putting the proposal submitted by staff before the council for consideration. Councilmember Rodney Roberts quickly moved the staff recommendation.

Councilmember Edward Putens claimed responsibility for bringing this idea to the attention of city staff—he had heard a radio report about a similar program used by the City of Rockville and had asked City Manager Michael McLaughlin to look into the idea. Councilmember Alan Turnbull was not present at that part of the meeting, but had informed the mayor that he had no problem with the proposal. Councilmember Thomas White wondered facetiously if the police chief could sentence violators to attend a council meeting, that particular meeting being long and tedious.

**Program**

Chief Craze noted a series of requirements before citizens can get a radar gun to use to catch neighbors. According to the program draft submitted by the chief, citizens first write or call the police department (301-507-6500) to indicate their interest in initiating a Neighborhood Speed Watch Program. The Crime Prevention Officer will schedule the speed watch projects on a first-come, first-served basis. Citizens are provided with training to operate a radar device and instruction on the collection of data, including appropriate behavior. The chief emphasized at the meeting the

See SPEED WATCH, page 8

**Local Snowfall Challenges Public Works, Fire, Police**

by Judith Ransom Bell

Compared to the previous week, this past Sunday's snow was "harder to push because of the frozen crust," according to Acting Superintendent Bill Phelan of Public Works. Most of the streets and courts were cleared by Tuesday morning, with sidewalks, the overpass and school parking lots scheduled to be done that day. The three snowstorms of the season have put "a continuing drag on personnel," Phelan said.

Trash collection has been difficult because some of the walks were not cleared by the residents and one of the crew fell. Phelan reports they want to get all the trash, but the crew has been told not to go on sidewalks that are not cleared. He asks residents who can't get their walk cleared to please put their trash at the end of their walk (up near the court) or down at the road. Anyone needing assistance with snow shoveling may call CARES at 301-345-6660, where there is a list of students willing to work for a fee.

The snow equipment is being repaired as quickly as it breaks and everything is running. However, with equipment in use 15-20

hours a day, Phelan is concerned about replacement if the bad weather continues.

Trees were icy, but none were down during the most recent storm. Phelan attributes the prevention to active pruning and the careful watching of trees. (Public Works maintains a list of trees classified by hazard.) Several of the crew have been well trained in caring for trees.

According to Chief Randy Krob, the Volunteer Fire Department assisted with the major water main break in College Park, using four-wheel drive vehicles to get people off the street.

Department members also provided rides to work for nurses at local hospitals. Chief Krob commended the citizens of Greenbelt, saying that most people were wise and stayed home during the snow, thereby preventing accidents.

Greenbelt Police spent a relatively quiet afternoon during the snow and sleet on SuperBowl Sunday. Lt. John Kemp told the News Review. Unlike the situation in the heavy snowstorm of the preceding week, officers did not need four-wheel drive vehicles, he noted. In both storms, all patrol officers made it to work.

Checking the daily log, he said that although there were few incidents, three involved domestic disputes, one a violent incident. Cabin or football fever may have contributed, he speculated. A late entry in the log was a 10 p.m. police response to a call about people throwing snowballs at a door in Greenbelt East.

(Barbara Young also contributed to this article.)

**What Goes On**

**Mon., Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m.** Assisted Living Task Force meeting, Community Center

**7:30 p.m.** Recycling and Environment Committee meeting, Community Center

**8 p.m.** Regular Council meeting Municipal Building (rescheduled from 2/14)

**Tue., Feb. 8, 7 p.m.** Public Safety Advisory Committee Public Forum on the Curfew Law, Community Center

**Wed., Feb. 9, 8 p.m.** Council worksession with GHI, Community Center

**Thurs., Feb. 10, 7:30 p.m.** GHI Board Meeting, Hamilton Place



This sled run on the hill opposite the Roosevelt Center underpass has been in constant use this week.

-photo by Frederique Schmuelling



## Kudos for Snow Removal

A warning to all Greenbelt motorists: just because city roads are driveable after a snow event, don't think that you can go out into the world and safely get to your destination. Snow removal just isn't as good out there as it is in Greenbelt! While the City of Greenbelt provides many good, reliable services, we can think of none more outstanding than snow removal. The members of the Greenbelt Public Works Department are there when they're needed and get the job done as quickly as possible. Usually within an hour or two following a storm, you can expect to drive on bare pavement on any city-maintained road, whether a narrow cul-de-sac or our busiest street, Hanover Parkway. A week ago Tuesday, those News Review staff members who turned out in force during and after the big snowfall (another dedicated group, by the way) saw firsthand the results of the public works crews' efforts during and after the storm.

The citizens of Greenbelt owe the many crew members who have worked long hours in the past two weeks a big round of applause for a job well done. We also appreciate a supportive management and city council that have made it possible for the crews to do their job right.

## Letters to the Editor

### Thanks

I just want to say thanks to the Greenbelt Public Works dept. They do a great job in keeping our streets passable when it snows. I've seen the other municipalities' side streets and Greenbelt Public Works ranks number one.

Ruth Huggins

### Thanks

We would like to thank our neighbors for so unselfishly helping us by shoveling the snow from our sidewalks and seeing to it that it was kept clear. We appreciate it so much. We couldn't ask for better neighbors.

George and Dee Ronic hi

### More Than Just Grief

As part of the healing process I feel compelled to write this story about human nature. Since my father's death not long ago, my family has experienced more than just grief over losing a loved one.

First, Greenbelt Homes would not allow us to enter his apartment without official documentation, even though they've known our family for 40 years. Instead they called the police who would only allow us to remove his cat. After appealing to their sense of reasonableness, under their watchful eyes, they allowed us to remove a suit to bury him in.

Next, as we removed our father's personal effects from his apartment a neighbor reported us to the landlord for taking up too many parking spaces. As it happened we were only using one of five that were available. The next day another neighbor who was on foot confronted us about not having a parking sticker. Ap-

parently the six empty parking spaces we had left open were not adequate.

We forgive those who should be ashamed and thank God for those who helped our father while he was alive. We thank the neighbor who took care of his cat and those who called 911.

We appreciate all of the support we received during this difficult time. We praise the Lord for family, friends, and neighbors who visited the funeral home and came to the burial mass. We also honor those who sent cards and flowers and offered food and laughter and tears.

Jeanne Hensel Taylor

### In Response

This is in response to the concerns raised by the Hensel family. The staff of Parkway Apartments is sympathetic to the grief felt by Mr. Hensel's family and regrets the difficulties they experienced in emptying his apartment. Dealing with the loss of a loved one is difficult and emotional; dealing with others' rules and procedures can be agitating and easily adds to the stress family members experience.

Knowing family members does not assure us of their legal right to another family member's property or possessions. Many times there are family situations of which we are not aware, and allowing surviving family members access to the home or property of the deceased can lead to a legal entanglement. Only those named on a lease agreement or other proprietary document can be given access to a home unless they have legal documentation to

show they have been named as personal representative. Our practice is to utilize the assistance of a law enforcement officer to serve as a neutral third party in the absence of official documentation. While this may be offensive to family members and loved ones, it is a necessary business procedure and also protects the family members and estate of the deceased. No personal affront is intended.

In a close-knit community such as ours, it is not uncommon for neighbors to notice when strangers are around. Without knowing the reason for their presence, they may report any change in activity to management. Well-meaning neighbors can offend others in an attempt to seek reassurance.

Gretchen Overdurff  
General Manager  
Parkway Apartments

### Thanks

Many thanks to Hall's Tree Service for getting my cat Dana out of the tree near my house. I also want to thank my good neighbors, passersby, staff and patients of McCarl Dental Office for their concern and phone calls about my cat's plight.

Dana climbed 25 feet up into the tree Monday morning. God knows how — my theory is that she was chased up the tree. I called the Fire Department who told me that they don't rescue cats, and that I should wait for her to climb down. I left for work, leaving food and water on the ground, and expected her to climb down on her own. She didn't. My neighbors and others called GHI (who contacted me at work), the Fire Department, the Police, the City of Greenbelt (Public Works and Animal Control) and Channel 9. Monday evening two painters climbed a ladder to within six feet of her but could not coax her to come down. So the cat spent the night in the tree.

Tuesday morning I called my vet, who said 24 hours was long enough to wait in this cold weather and that I should get her down by any means. So I called Hall's Tree Service. Mr. Hall arrived with two helpers, donned his climbing equipment, climbed the tree and retrieved the cat in what seemed like 10 minutes. I was and am grateful for his experienced help.

Needless to say, Dana will no longer be allowed outside.

Sheila Alpers

## The Old Curmudgeon

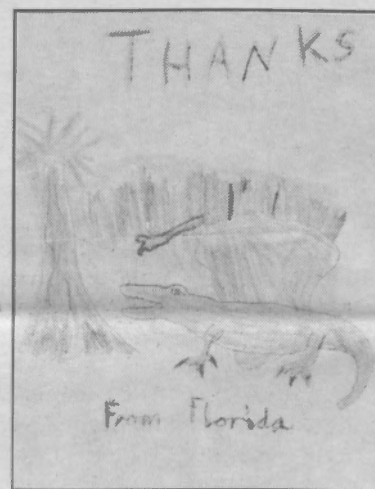


" 'Where are the snows of yesteryear?' ... On my parking space, that's where! "

### Needs Help to Learn About City and State

My name is Brennan Cerbin. I am in the fifth grade at Mintz Elementary School. Our class is learning about the United States. My assignment is to write a report on Maryland. I really need your help! Please publish this letter in your newspaper. I am asking your readers to please send me any historical information about your town, state. Maybe they could share some interesting facts with me. I really want to write a good report! Thank you very much for your help!

Brennan Cerbin  
Mintz Elementary School  
5th Grade Room 209  
1510 Heather Lakes Blvd.  
Brandon, FL 33511



## Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER  
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Diane Oberg, president; James Giese, vice president; Kathleen Gallagher, treasurer; Eileen Farnham, secretary; and Altoria Bell Ross.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center 15 Crescent Road during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$32/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., 8 - 10 p.m., Tuesday 8 - 10 p.m.

### OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

#### Week of February 4

Fri. Straight Story G  
(5:00 @ \$4.00) 7:30, 9:45

Sat. Straight Story  
(2:30, 5:00 @ \$4.00) 7:30, 9:45

Sun. Straight Story  
(2:30, 5:00 @ \$4.00) 7:30

Mon.-Thurs. Straight Story  
7:30

129 Centerway  
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745  
www.pgtheatres.com

### Channel B-10 Schedule Greenbelt Municipal/Public Access TV

#### MUNICIPAL ACCESS-301-474-8000

#### Tuesday & Thursday, February 8 & February 10

Introducing a new entertaining program geared towards children ages 4-11, focusing on the art of magic. This is the third in a series of 13 programs.

4:00 p.m. "Dr. Magic Show" Episode 3

6:15 p.m. Leo Green, People & Places

7:00 p.m. Open Door Meeting with Leo Green and Delegates from 23<sup>rd</sup> District

#### PUBLIC ACCESS-GATE-301-507-6581

#### Wednesday & Friday, February 9 & February 11

7:00 p.m. 101 Black Inventions

8:15 p.m. Greenbelt in Focus



## Seniors' Valentine Party at Greenbriar

Greenbriar and Glen Oaks senior residents and a guest are invited to a Valentine Luncheon on Tuesday, February 15 at noon in the Terrace Room. Enjoy the sound of the big band era. Door prizes will be awarded. This is a free event but call to register at 301-441-1096.

## Children's Valentine Party to Be Held

Greenbriar and Glen Oaks children ages 3 - 12 are invited to a Valentine Party on Saturday, February 12 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Terrace Room. Children will be able to make their own special valentines and refreshments will be served. Door prizes will be awarded. This is a free event but registration is required by Wednesday, February 9. Call Tina at 301-441-1096.

## Comic Art Display At Center Gallery

"Kids in Action! Art That Moves!," an exhibit that explores comic book and animation classes for children taught by George Kochell (Mr. Geo), opens this week at the Greenbelt Community Center Gallery. On display are examples from student work at Greenbelt Elementary School where Mr. Geo teaches fourth grade TAG classes, and work by students in Mr. Geo's Community Center classes, which are produced by the Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts (GAVA) in partnership with GATE (Greenbelt Access TV).

The opening reception, to which the public is invited, will take place this Sunday, February 6, from 1 to 4 p.m. Children will be able to create flipbooks and draw with Mr. Geo until 3 p.m. when there will be a tour of the animation lab at GATE studios.

The exhibit will continue through March 14. The Gallery is open from 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., seven days a week, whenever the room is not otherwise in use. Visitors may call to check at the Center office, 301-397-2208.

For further information about the exhibit, call Nicole DeWald, the arts coordinator for the city Recreation Department, at 301-474-8000. For information about Mr. Geo's classes call Barbara Simon, director of GAVA, at 301-474-2192. All GAVA programs are supported by the city's Recreation Department. The Summer 1999 Animation program was supported in part by the Prince George's Arts Council. Mr. Geo's classes at Greenbelt Elementary School are made possible through the Fuel for Schools program of the Greenbelt Mobil Service Station.

## HELP!

- Volunteer typist needed for News Review on Tuesday afternoons.
- Get the first look at the news as you type our stories in WordPerfect
- 301-441-2662
- or 301-513-0482

# Community Events

## Exploring Dystonia

On Friday, February 11, Explorations Unlimited will present a program on the disease Dystonia. The presenter will be Jules Balog who spent five years before being properly diagnosed with Dystonia at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Dystonia, which may affect as many as 300,000 people in North America, is the third most common movement disorder, after Parkinson's and Tremors. More importantly, most persons afflicted with this neurological disorder spend years seeking a proper diagnosis before appropriate treatment becomes available. There is no cure presently available but there are treatments which assist affected persons to resume some normalcy to their lives. The governor of Maryland and 40 other officials have declared a week in October as Dystonia Awareness Week.

"Explorations Unlimited" is a speaker series held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. This presentation will be held in the Senior Classroom. Everyone is invited to attend and questions are always encouraged. Please call 301-397-2208.

## Hard of Hearing Self-Help Meeting

Turning the television up and tuning out former activities? Join the Prince George's County group, Self-Help for Hard of Hearing People on Thursday, February 10, 2-4 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. A short video tape will be shown, "Stay Tuned: The Challenge of Hearing Loss." This is the story of Ann Pope's adjustment to hearing loss as a result of Meniere's Disease. Members will share experiences adjusting to hearing loss. There is help available through many sources.

For further information call 301-474-0345.

## GHI Notes

There will be a Woodlands Committee meeting on February 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room.

The Nominations & Elections Committee will meet February 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the GHI library.

The regular board of directors meetings for the month are on February 10 and 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the GHI board room. Members are encouraged to attend.

## Film Made at Local Theater Here Feb. 5

by Mary Moien

The locally-produced film, originally titled Popcorn Magic, which was filmed recently at the Old Greenbelt Theater will be shown before the evening feature film starting this Saturday. The film which is "a story about the nostalgia, romance, and sometimes fantasy of going to the movies" has been retitled: It is now titled Dien Yen. The title, which is Mandarin Chinese for movies, literally means electric shadows.

Paul Sanchez, owner of the Old Greenbelt Theater, will be hosting a showing and reception at 7 p.m. on Saturday, February 5 for those who have tickets for the Saturday evening main film. The short subject will be shown on a television screen in the lobby, not on the main screen. Members of the cast and crew will be present to discuss the film and answer questions. The movie will also be shown preceding the feature film each evening of the next week.

The story line involves two people who meet at a movie theater. According to co-director Jorge Bernardo, the plot involves a hard-of-hearing ticket taker who "makes the magic happen." The cast and crew are local to the Washington area, not to Greenbelt. However, the Greenbelt marquee and theater are the Greenbelt connection.

## At the Library

Tuesday, February 8, P. J. Storytime, 7 p.m. for ages 4-6.

Wednesday, February 9, BooKids Discussion Group, 3:30 p.m. for ages 8-12.

Thursday, February 10 Drop-In Storytime, 10:14 a.m. for ages 3-5.

Toddler Time, 11:15 a.m. for two-year-olds and parent or guardian.

## Movie of Month Is Cyrano de Bergerac

The movie of the month at the Community Center will be shown on Monday, February 14 at 1 p.m. in the senior classroom.

Jose Ferrer as "Cyrano de Bergerac" gives a sensitive and moving performance for which he won an Academy Award.

This film version of Edmond Rostand's classic love story set in the 17th Century shows the poet with the long nose who writes tender love letters for his friend to the beautiful Roxanne (Mala Powers).

## City Blood Drive Scheduled Feb. 14

The Greenbelt Recreation Department is co-sponsoring with the American Red Cross a blood drive on Monday, February 14, from 2 to 8 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. To make an appointment, call Janet Goldberg at 301-397-2212 after 2:30 p.m.

## GIAC to Sponsor Free Computer Class

Cards, posters, banners, boxes — just some of the fun things to be done with the three popular graphics programs PrintShop, PrintMaster and PrintArtist. Mary Camp will demonstrate features of these programs, highlighting their strengths, weaknesses, and similarities. This free computer class will meet at the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, in the Senior Classroom on Wednesday, Feb. 9, from 7 to 9 p.m. For information call Gilbert Lee at 301-345-8135. The class is sponsored by the Greenbelt Internet Access Cooperative.



## REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL ROOM February 7, 2000 - 8:00 P.M.

### I. ORGANIZATION

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
4. Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations

*(The consent agenda consists of those items which have asterisks [\*] placed beside them, subject to such revisions as may be made by the Council prior to approval.)*

5. Approval of Agenda and Additions

### II. COMMUNICATIONS

6. Presentations
7. Petitions and Requests

*(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless the standing rules are waived by the Council.)*

8. Minutes of Meetings
9. Administrative Reports

- \* 10. Committee Reports
- Public Safety Advisory Committee #2000-2

### III. LEGISLATION

11. An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 12, "Parks and Recreation", by Adding a New Article VII, "Trees" - 2nd Reading

### IV. OTHER BUSINESS

12. Ballfield Lighting at Braden Field
13. Update on Park Ranger Program
14. Approval of Purchase - Planning & Community Development Vehicle
15. Studio Artist License Agreement
16. Bus Stop at MD 193 & Greenway Center
17. State Legislation (Tentative)

- \* 18. Approval of Easement - Greenspring
- \* 19. Legal Agreement on Red Light Cameras
- \* 20. Referral to Public Safety Advisory Committee - Police Visibility

### V. MEETINGS

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NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public and all interested citizens are invited to attend. For information, please call 301-474-3870. If special accommodations are required to make this meeting accessible to any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 or 301-474-2046 (TDD) to request such accommodation before 10:00 am on the day of the meeting.

Check out the Greenbelt Citylink website at [www.ci.greenbelt.md.us](http://www.ci.greenbelt.md.us)

David E. Moran, CMC  
City Clerk



## PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

The Public Safety Advisory Committee invites residents of Greenbelt to a public forum to discuss a proposed curfew law. The meeting will be held on February 8, 2000 at the Community Center Multipurpose Room at 7:00 p.m.



## Greenbelt Police Department CITIZENS' ACADEMY

Get a behind the scenes view of what it is like to be a police officer. The Greenbelt Police Department is offering a twelve-week program Tuesday evenings, 6:30pm-9:30pm beginning March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2000

Become more active in crime prevention in your community. Learn about police procedures, traffic stops, accident investigation and more through guest speakers, practical demonstrations and field demonstrations.

Contact Support Services at 301-507-6513 for an application.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED TO 20.  
Application deadline is February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2000





## OBITUARY

### James Hall

Former Greenbelter James (Jim) Hall died on January 28, 2000.

He is survived by his wife Sally Hall, daughters Hilda Johnson and Joyce McDaniel; sons James Haney and Kenneth Hall, two brothers, two sisters, 14 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Friends may visit the family at Gasch's Funeral Home, 4739 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville on Thursday, February 3, 3-5 p.m., and 7-9 p.m. A service will be held at Gasch's on Friday, February 4, 9:30 a.m.. Interment will be in Maryland Veterans' Cemetery, Cheltenham.

### Mountain Folkways Subject of Lecture

The Prince George's Audubon Society invites the public to hear Mary Hufford, folklife specialist at the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress, deliver a slide lecture "Natural History and the Folkways of Mountain Communities: A Vanishing Way of Life." Hufford's fieldwork in the Coal River Valley of West Virginia documents the cultural impacts of forest decline.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, February 8, 7:15 p.m., at the College Park Airport Annex, located at the College Park Airport, off Paint Branch Parkway, between Route 1 and Kenilworth Avenue. For more information call 301-513-0006.

### Kids Study Beans at Mishkan Torah School

by Bonnie Korr

Zipper cream, purple chowder, October beans — the names were as colorful and enticing as the beans themselves. The children at Mishkan Torah Nursery School gathered in a circle and eyed the piles of beans in front of them — long, slender, smooth yellow ones and green ones; straight, thick, lumpy green ones and curved, flat ones; purple and green speckled pods; yellow and green mottled ones; and pink and cream spotted, bumpy October beans, the last of the fall harvest at the farmers' market. Fingers reached out to touch. The guessing game began. What was inside each pod? What size were the seeds? What color, what shape, how

many? Could you eat the whole pod, or only the seed? Would the seeds grow if you planted them?

Each child made a prediction for, and then split open, each type of bean. What a surprise to discover tiny green seeds in a thick, purple pod; round, tan seeds in green and yellow speckled pods; and large kidney bean-shaped seeds, some white, some speckled, some all pink, in the October bean pods.

The highlight of the bean work was, in theory, the tasting party. But when you are three or four years old, some foods are much more intriguing to examine than to actually put on your snack plate, let alone into your mouth. Since parents might be bolder, each child



Danie Minor, Rose Mische Commins and Cecilia Morin plant bean seeds they removed from the bean pods. -photo by Bonnie Korr

took home a "bean kit in a baggy," a sample of each bean pod and seed variety for their families to match up and even taste or plant.

The children chose their favorite bean seeds to plant in clear plastic cups. For weeks they watered the seeds and watched the roots, stems, and leaves grow. Disappointed that their carefully tended plants wouldn't yield beans to eat for this season's harvest, they sprouted quick-growing mung beans. The sprouts were ready to eat just in time for Thanksgiving, and weren't bad, as

long as there was plenty of Thousand Island dressing for dipping.



Cecilia Morin, Emily Anderson, Maia Rosenberg, Rose Mische Commins, and Danie Minor shell fresh beans to examine the seeds inside. -photo by Bonnie Korr

### Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road,  
Beltsville/Adelphi (301-937-3666)

*Welcomes you to our open,  
nurturing community*

February 6, 2000 - 9:30 & 11:15 a.m.

*"Building Faith in Community  
Part I: Foundations"*



by Barbara Wells and  
Jaco B. ten Hove,  
Co-Ministers



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10:00 A.M.



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Rev. Stephen H. Mentz, Pastor (301) 345-5111

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Saturday 5 p.m.

Daily Mass: As announced

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.

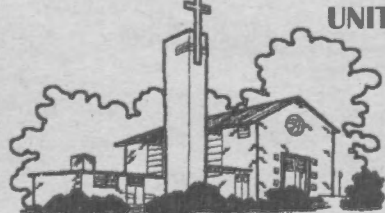
Rev. Thomas F. Crowley, Pastor • In Residence: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

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### Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

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10 A.M.

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-Baha'i Sacred Writings

Greenbelt Baha'i Community

P.O. Box 245

Greenbelt, MD 20770

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Information about the Baha'i Faith is on the  
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10 am Education for all ages

11 am Sung Service

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Members of the planning staff — Stacy Miller, in foreground, behind her is an unidentified man, Chidy Umeozulu, Joe Chang and Monty

Kolste. The photo was taken at the opening session of the Metro Area planning process.

- photo by Prospero Zevallos

## HISTORY

(Continued from page 1)

Public Works, where he had experience with development of the Addison Road and West Hyattsville sites. He joined MNCPPC in 1994.

The two female members of the team are Stacy Miller, a native of Maine, and Virginian Jennifer Smith. Both are white. The former, who has worked with the Planning Division for 10 years, holds degrees in geography and forest resources. She worked previously as an industrial forester and for some time headed a private consulting business where she did extensive mapping. Smith, a landscape architect and urban designer and a graduate of Virginia Tech, joined the team in early 1998.

Finally, Chidy Umeozulu, a native of Nigeria, holds two degrees, in architecture and urban planning, from the University of Louisiana. He has been a member of the MNCPPC staff for 11 years.

### Stakeholders

Stakeholders designated by the team included the three adjacent municipalities, College Park, Berwyn Heights and Greenbelt; nearby commercial developments, Beltway Plaza and Capital Office Park; owners of the two properties in question, A. H. Smith and Associates and WMATA; and owners of the Springhill Lake apartment complex.

Kap Kapistan and Dean Armstrong, land planner with Fossett and Brugger, were chosen to represent the interests respectively of Beltway Plaza and Capital Office Park. Richard "Chip" Reed, an attorney with the Metroland LLC property owners, attended meetings on behalf of the A. H. Smith owners. All three joined the planning effort when it began; all three stayed with it until it concluded in November 1999.

In addition, Planning Department staff invited citizens from within a one-mile radius of the Metro station platform to participate. Among those who responded from Greenbelt were city councilmembers Thomas X. White, Alan Turnbull, and Rodney Roberts; another Greenbelter who turned up for the first meeting, which was held at the Greenbelt Middle School, was Tom Renahan.

### Skepticism

White, who attended this first meeting of stakeholders in January 1998, describes his attitude, as well as that of most other invited participants, as skeptical about the value of participating in the planning process. Their attitude was soured, he reported, by what had happened in the early 90's to another Metro station enterprise—one involving citizens and planning staff concerning development near the College Park Metro station.

In that case, after a long process involving a special zoning

category called a Transit District Overlay Zone (or TDOZ), previously used for the West Hyattsville and Prince George's Plaza stations, the planning process had collapsed. Developers found the TDOZ too restrictive, charging it was unworkable in the market. Perhaps the timing was wrong, since the economy just then was in a downturn.

From the point of view of citizen participants, however, the work they had done—especially their concern for the interests of nearby residents—seemed to have gone for naught. From their perspective WMATA took no interest in the quality of the neighborhood but capitulated wholly to the desires of prospective developers.

Park and Planning staff had also been disappointed by this outcome and Kolste and Chang, White said, were "determined" to make this new effort work. As a planning category, the TDOZ was discarded for the Greenbelt station.

### Introductory Meeting

The first meeting of the Greenbelt Metro area study group was structured like a briefing, White said. Held in the school gymnasium, the presentation utilized maps and graphs highlighting different aspects of the study area. Among these were maps detailing current land use, several aerial views, and, in White's words, "an excellent environmental map" showing soil quality and the hydrology of the region. He characterizes the quality of information presented by the planning staff as "impressive."

"It blew my mind away," White said; it made visible "how challenged this site was"—how poor the underlying soil and how extensive the flood plain.

As the meeting proceeded, those attending arranged themselves into three groups around specific interests: land use, transportation, and environment. The specific area they were studying included all the land east of Rhode Island Avenue in College Park and west of Kenilworth Avenue. The northern border was Sunnyside Avenue in Beltsville and the southern, the commercial properties on the south side of Greenbelt Road.

Almost at once a "pretty good consensus" developed among those in the third group, White said, "about what environmental matters were important." He noted the importance of citizen input in this process, since some

members had lived all their lives in the area. They knew, for example, what had happened to Indian Creek and its flood plain, including the impact on Greenbelt Road, when such a major event as Hurricane Agnes had dumped its torrential rains.

### Focus Group

Those attending the initial meeting were invited to continue serving as participants, and many did. What was called the focus group continued to explore the implications of development within the area. As the same people met every other month, working together through various issues as these evolved, their original skepticism began to moderate. There was a general consensus, White said, that they needed to "get it right at the concept planning stage."

Renahan confirms the collegiality of the working groups. "We were very good at getting along with each other," he said. Meetings were "amicable and businesslike. I enjoyed being among these people," he added.

### Staff Preparations

This quality of interaction did not occur accidentally. It had been nurtured through staff guidelines and working principles long before the first stakeholder meeting had taken place. The Planning Department's mission statement, developed some three years earlier, stressed "facilitating effective intergovernmental and citizen involvement." The statement charged staff members to "work cooperatively with decision-makers, citizens and other agencies."

This document thus set the tone for interactions among the staff and with members of the community, directing them to respect and recognize "each individual effort" and encouraging them to use such collaborative modes as "partnerships, teamwork and systems of thinking." Staff preparations for the planning process took two years.

Possibly long experience with cooperative processes by Greenbelt participants aided these group interactions. Yet it was hard to detect a different deportment among the Berwyn Heights or College Park attendees.

### County Council Actions

Not long after this first meeting of stakeholders, a parallel

event occurred through the aegis of the Metroland LLC partners. On June 9, 1998, after some seven revisions, the county council passed a bill, CB 35, which amended the zoning text to allow a mixed-use Metro Planned Community on property zoned heavy industrial—the zoning category for the A. H. Smith property.

This had been preceded by the passage on April 7 of a council resolution, CR17-1998, which directed the county planning staff to proceed with a sector plan and sectional map amendment for the A. H. Smith, WMATA, and surrounding properties. Throughout this legislative process, nearby municipalities, including Greenbelt, were apprised of this initiative.

As the focus group continued to meet, the county council accepted in principle that the group's work would lead to a Sectional Map Amendment (SMA). In July 1998, the council formally authorized development of an SMA.


### Larger Group

This action began a formal program of public participation beyond the initial focus group. On May 28, 1998 a public forum had taken place at the MNCPPC building on Kenilworth Avenue in Riverdale (now Riverdale Park) to inform area citizens of what lay ahead. Motivation for this wider planning effort, as described in a retrospective background document, Greenbelt Metro Area Sector Plan of December 3, 1999, was that "Unguided growth...could adversely affect the surrounding communities by increasing congestion, harming fragile, cultural and natural assets; and encourage uncoordinated piecemeal development."

The Sector Plan, as an official document, was envisioned to become a policy guide for development over the next two or three decades. It would utilize a six-year cycle of plan review with the understanding "that the vision and goals" could "be approached in stages dependent on market activity." The planners expected that "periodic updates" would be necessary.



The outer dotted line shows the limits for the Greenbelt Metro Station area study. The inner section outlined is the focus area.



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Fresh 85% Lean Round Ground Beef <b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> lb.	Prestige Angus Beef Boneless Bottom Round-or-Rump Roast <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Fresh American Leg-of Lamb <b>\$2<sup>69</sup></b> lb.	Steak Umm Frozen Sandwich Steaks <b>\$2<sup>49</sup></b> 12.25 oz.
Weaver Chicken Strips Crispy Buffalo Style <b>\$3<sup>19</sup></b> 10 oz.	Hillshire Smoked Sausage <b>\$2<sup>29</sup></b> 16 oz.
Jamestown Sliced Bacon <b>\$1<sup>59</sup></b> 16 oz.	Kunzler Grill Franks <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b> 16 oz.

### DAIRY

Fleischmann's Margarine Quarters <b>79¢</b> 1 lb.		Esskay Low Salt Fat Free Cooked Ham <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Sealtest Orange Juice <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 64 oz.		Carolina Rotisserie Style Turkey Breast <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Kraft Original American Singles <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 12 oz.		Alpine Lace Swiss Cheese <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> lb.
Best Yet Soft Cream Cheese <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 12 oz.		Tasty 3 Potato Salad <b>\$2<sup>09</sup></b> lb.

### HOT FOODS DELI

Stouffers Macaroni & Beef <b>\$3<sup>29</sup></b> lb.		Fresh Fillet -of- Flounder <b>\$5<sup>79</sup></b> lb.
Italian Crostatas Asst. <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> 16 oz.		Seapack Butterfly Shrimp <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> 9 oz.

### BAKERY

### GROCERY BARGAINS

Clorox Original Liquid Bleach <b>99¢</b> gallon		Libby Yellow Corn- Sweet Peas- Cut-or-French Green Beans <b>39¢</b> 15 1/2 oz.
White House Apple Juice Plastic Jug <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 64 oz.	Dynamo Value Size Liquid Laundry Detergent <b>\$3<sup>89</sup></b> 100 oz.	Marcal Paper Towels <b>59¢</b> 60 sheet roll
Pennsylvania Dutch Egg Noodles Asst. <b>99¢</b> 16 oz.	Tetley Tea Bags <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 100 pk.	Chase & Sanborn Value Size All Purpose Ground Coffee <b>\$5<sup>29</sup></b> 34.5 oz.
Quaker Assorted Bag Cereals <b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> 12-18 oz.	Furmano Tomato Sauce <b>39¢</b> 15 oz.	Reynold's Plastic Food Wrap <b>\$1<sup>79</sup></b> 100 ft.
Kleenex Facial Tissues <b>99¢</b> 175 pk.	Joy Ultra Liquid Dish Detergent <b>89¢</b> 14.7 oz.	Best Yet Apple-or-Cherry Pie Filling <b>89¢</b> 21 oz.
Musselman's Apple Sauce <b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> 46-48 oz.	Angel Soft Bathroom Tissues <b>99¢</b> 4 roll pack	
	General Mills Honey Nut Cheerios <b>\$1<sup>79</sup></b> 14 oz.	
Best Yet Peaches-Pears- Fruit Cocktail <b>79¢</b> 16 oz.	Polaner All Fruit Preserves Asst. <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 10 oz.	Betty Crocker Fruit Roll-ups <b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> 10 pk.
Crisco-Puritan Cooking Oils <b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> 48 oz.	Wonder English Muffins <b>99¢</b> 6 pack	Marcal Napkins <b>79¢</b> 120 pk.
Reese's Peanut Butter <b>\$1<sup>49</sup></b> 18 oz.	Gerber Baby Graduate Meals Asst. <b>79¢</b> 6 oz.	Best Yet Coffee Creamer <b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> 22 oz.
Best Yet Tall Kitchen Trash Bags <b>79¢</b> 15 pk.- 13 gal.	Reynold's Wrap Economy Roll Aluminum <b>\$1<sup>79</sup></b> 75 sq. ft.	Scoop Away Cat Litter <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> 14 lb.

### HEALTH & BEAUTY

Furman's Kidney Beans <b>3/\$1<sup>00</sup></b> 15 oz.	Ludens Throat Drops <b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> 40 pk.	General Mills Golden Grahams -or- Lucky Charms Cereal <b>\$1<sup>89</sup></b> 13-14 oz.
Ortega Taco Shells <b>99¢</b> 12 pk.	Blistex Bonus Pack Original Lip Balm <b>\$1<sup>09</sup></b> .15 oz.	Herr's Potato Chips <b>99¢</b> 5.5 oz. min.
Ortega Garden Salsa <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b> 16 oz.	Durable Foil Disposable Bake Pans Cake-Pie-Muffin <b>79¢</b> 2-3-4 pk.	Best Yet Extra Fancy Ketchup <b>79¢</b> 20 oz.

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Vine Ripened Red Tomatoes <b>99¢</b> lb.	Red Ripe Florida Strawberries <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b> pint
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Verdelli Spinach <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 10 oz.	Imported Peaches <b>99¢</b> lb.
Plump Green Peppers <b>89¢</b> lb.	Bartlett Pears <b>99¢</b> lb.
Red-or-Green Leaf Lettuce <b>99¢</b> lb.	Fruit Club For Kids <b>FREE</b> Honey Tangerine See Store For Details

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Swanson Meat Pie Beef-Chicken-Turkey <b>59¢</b> 7 oz.		Round Hill Wines <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> 750 ml.
Donald Duck Orange Juice <b>99¢</b> 12 oz.		Beck's Beer <b>\$0<sup>00</sup></b> 6 pack- 12 oz. NR's
Ellio's Large Cheese Pizza <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 16 oz.		Black Label Beer <b>\$5<sup>39</sup></b> 12 pk.- 12 oz. cans

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The cafe tables and chairs await customers.

-photo by Frederique Schmuelling

## SPEED WATCH

(Continued from page 1)

importance of training participants on how to interact, should they be confronted by a motorist. Training would last not more than a few hours, the chief told this reporter.

Expressing concern that the program "not become a vigilante effort, or something like that," Craze noted that the observation team would have to consist of three people — one of whom would operate the radar gun, another record vehicle information (date, time, make, model, color, tag number and speed), while a third would verify the information.

Residents would collect data during the times they feel speeding is worst. While the staff recommendation limited activity to the residents' neighborhood, a report of the Public Safety Advisory Committee, also approved by the council, would give citizens the option of working outside their personal neighborhood, and encouraged alumni of the Police Academy to provide the service. (Neither Craze or McLaughlin commented on this proposal.)

### Letter

After obtaining registration information from the Motor Vehicle Department, Craze will send a letter to the violating vehicles' owners. Craze indicated that some tolerance for speed above the limit will be allowed, but wouldn't say what. The tolerance would depend upon the location and traffic situation. But a letter wouldn't be sent for a violation of just one mile per hour, he said.

The sample letter prepared by the chief contains the following paragraph: "I recognize that you may not have been the operator of the vehicle at the time, and it is possible that the witness erred in their reading of the license plate. However, if they are right, I urge you to slow down and drive more carefully to protect yourself and others. In the event we are wrong, I feel sure you will understand that community concern is high, and we intend only to alert you to it."

When asked if a person accused of speeding would be told who the persons were who observed the speeding, Craze responded, "No. I don't want to start up a neighbor to neighbor kind of thing."

## African American Folk Tales Offered

On Wednesday, February 9, 10 - 11 a.m. the Deerfield Run Community Center, 1300 Laurel-Bowie Road, Laurel, will have free African American folk tales for ages 3 - 5. Celebrate the Uncle Remus tales from the late 1800s. Help create the old stories of Brer Rabbit with costume accessories and props. Reservations required; call 301-953-7882; TTY 301-445-4512.

One important aspect of the program, according to Davis, is that residents who complain of speeding will have an opportunity to see just how serious a problem speeding is in the neighborhood. She believed that some will learn that the problem is not as serious as they might have believed.

## Is a Loved One Mentally Ill?

**The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Prince George's County**  
Is sponsoring a free 12 week course  
**For Families or Friends of People with a Mental Illness**

This comprehensive course offers information on:

The most recent research, review of Medications, limit setting and coping skills for relatives, where to go for what services or help, ways to combat stigma, and emotional support.

Begins Wednesday, March 1. Meets for 12 consecutive Wednesdays from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM. On Brightseat Road between Landover Road and Central Avenue, with plentiful parking next to the entrance. A commitment to attend all sessions is requested.

Each group is limited to 16 participants and is taught by trained, experienced family members.

Call Dorie Arbach on 301-808-5779 for more information or to register.



## City of Greenbelt COMMUNITY MEDIATION BOARD

The City of Greenbelt has re-established a Community Mediation Board under the auspices of the Prince George's County Human Relations Commission. This Board is comprised of city residents who have volunteered to receive mediation training and be available to mediate disputes between neighbors.

Mediation consists of a step by step problem solving process that results in the involved parties agreeing on a fair solution. Mediation serves as an alternative to litigation and brings both parties to the table on an equal basis. A mediator does not act as an advocate of either party. He/she reserves judgment and does not voice opinion.

Types of problems mediated may be noisy neighbors, barking dogs, trespassing children, blocked driveways, family feuds, littering, loitering, neighboring property neglect, small claims matters, etc.

Mediation services will be available at the Greenbelt Community Center on the second Tuesday and fourth Wednesday of each month. Any Greenbelt citizen who wishes to make use of this free service should call the Human Resources Officer, City of Greenbelt, 301-345-7203.

## Planning Board Holds Forum on Corridor

The Prince George's County Planning Board of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) will hold a public forum at 7 p.m. on Monday, February 7 to solicit comments on an issues report for the College Park U.S. 1 Corridor. The forum will be held at the College Park Community Center, 5051 Pierce Avenue, College Park and will begin with an information display at 6:30 p.m.

Those wishing to speak at the forum may register in advance by calling the Planning Board office at 301-952-3560. Written com-

## Call for Volunteers

The Prince George's Volunteer Center is recruiting volunteer telephone operators for the WAMU 88.5 FM Annual Volunteer-a-Thon to be held on Thursday, February 10, from 5:45 - 8:15 p.m. For more information, call 301-699-2800.

ments will also be accepted through February 22, 2000 and may be addressed to: Elizabeth M. Hewlett, chair, Prince George's County Planning Board, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772.



## PRELIMINARY AGENDA MEETING OF GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

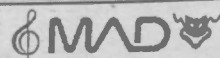
Thursday, February 10, 2000 • 7:30 p.m.

GHI Board Room

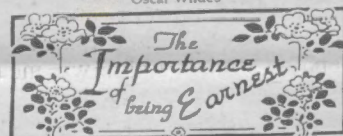
### Key Agenda Items

- ◆ Annual Meeting 2000 Discussion
- ◆ Follow Discussion - Board/Council Work Session Discussion

Regular Board meetings are open to members.



GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER'S  
MUSIC AND DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS  
Oscar Wilde's



A trivial comedy for serious people  
Directed by: Barbara Lochner

Produced by: Ted Ying

**Performances: February 11-13, 18-20, 25-26, 2000**  
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Doors and buffet open at 6:45, Cabaret at 7:00, Show at 8:00  
All times one hour earlier for Sunday performances

		Groups of 8+	Less than 8
Fridays	Feb. 11, 18, 25	\$10	\$11
Saturdays	Feb. 12, 19, 26	\$13	\$14
Sundays	Feb. 13, 20	\$10	\$11



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**Monday, February 14th, 2000**

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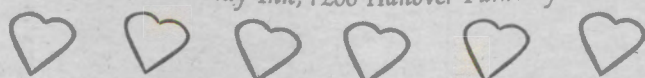
Your Choice of 1 Salad Per Person:  
Classic Caesar or Garden

Your Choice of 1 Entree Per Person:  
Roasted Prime Rib or  
Shrimp & Scallops Alfredo over Penne Pasta or  
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# POLICE BLOTTER

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

## Armed Robbery

5900 block of Cherrywood Terrace, Jan. 21, 11:25 p.m., a pizza delivery person made a delivery and had gotten back into his vehicle when a man approached him on foot. The man displayed a silver handgun and demanded money. After obtaining money the robber told the victim to leave. The robber then fled the area on foot. The suspect is described as a black male in his twenties, 5'8", and 165 lbs.; he was wearing a gray sweatshirt, a black puffy jacket, and baggy blue jeans.

## Assault

6900 block of Hanover Parkway, Jan. 27, 9:21 p.m., a 36-year-old male nonresident was arrested and charged with assault after he allegedly threatened another man with a knife and punched him in the face during an argument. He was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

## Drugs

7400 block of Greenbelt Road, Jan. 23, 11:44 p.m., a 30-year-old male resident was arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia after he was found during a traffic stop to be in possession of a pipe commonly used to smoke marijuana. He was released on citation pending trial.

## Unattended Children

6000 block of Breezewood Drive, Jan. 22, 9:43 a.m., a 33-year-old male resident was arrested and charged with leaving

children unattended. The fire department had responded to the residence because of a report of the smell of smoke. Two children, ages five and eight, were discovered alone in the residence. The person responsible was released on citation pending trial.

## Driving while Intoxicated

100 block of Westway, Jan. 20, 2:23 a.m., a 29-year-old female resident was arrested and charged with driving while intoxicated and driving under the influence after officers responded to a report of a suspicious occupied vehicle. The woman was released on citation pending trial.

## Trespassing

Beltway Plaza Mall, Jan. 26, 2:11 p.m., a 48-year-old male resident was arrested and charged with trespassing after he returned to mall property after being barred earlier in the day. He was released on citation pending trial.

## Burglary and Theft

13 court of Ridge Road, Jan. 21, 2:03 p.m., an antique sled was taken from a front yard.

22 block of Ridge Road, Jan. 21, 3:25 p.m., money was taken. The method of entry is unknown.

6100 block of Springhill Terrace, Jan. 24, 12:16 p.m., a vacant apartment was entered by unknown means and was vandalized.

6100 block of Breezewood Drive, Jan. 24, 2:28 p.m., a vacant apartment was entered by unknown means and was vandalized.

## PG Plaza Celebrates Black History Month

Book signings, new store openings, visits by historical characters and musical performances are highlights of Black History Month being celebrated during February at Prince George's Plaza.

On Monday, February 7 from 7:30 to 9 p.m., author Lawrence Otis Graham will read from and sign copies of his book, "Our Kind of People." The reading will take place at Karibu Books.

## Our Neighbors

Our sympathies to Public Works' Acting Director Kenny Hall and his family on the death of his father, James Hall, a former Greenbelt resident, after an extended illness.

## Vehicle Crimes

5900 block of Cherrywood Lane, Jan. 26, a 1988 Pontiac Grand Prix was burned by unknown persons.

The following vehicles were reported stolen: a tan 1993 Dodge Caravan with Maryland tags DVO 223, Jan. 23, from Beltway Plaza Mall; a black four-door Honda Accord with Maryland tags FJC 661, Jan. 24, from the 6200 block of Breezewood Court; a tan 1989 Honda Civic station wagon with D.C. tags A10459, Jan. 25, from the 9000 block of Edmonston Terrace; a dark green two-door 1996 Plymouth Neon with Maryland tags EWR 088, Jan. 25, from the 6900 block of Hanover Parkway; and a blue 1987 Pontiac Grand Am with Maryland tags PAF 815, Jan. 26, from the Greenbelt Metro Station.

Thefts from or attempted thefts of vehicles were reported in the following areas: 6700 block of Village Park Drive and Greenway Shopping Center.

## Black Pursuits Quiz Competition

The 15th Annual Black Pursuits Quiz Competition is being held during February Black History Month.

Black Pursuits challenges students from Prince George's County high schools to match wits on questions about people, places and events in African-American history, from well-known facts to lesser known ones. Set to challenge four-time champion Suitland High School in a full day of elimination matches on Saturday, Feb. 5 at the New Carrollton Library, 7414 Riverdale Road, are last year's runner-up Laurel High School, plus teams from Eleanor Roosevelt and more than a dozen other high schools. Matches are scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The four highest-scoring teams will advance to the semi-final match on Saturday, Feb. 19 at 10 a.m. at Prince George's Community College, 301 Largo Road followed by the finals. Weathercaster Tony Perkins of ABC-TV'S "Good Morning America" will be the moderator for the semi-finals and finals.

Black Pursuits was created and is sponsored by the Prince George's County public libraries.

"We want to instill an appreciation for African-Americans' contributions to the world, round out and reinforce what students have learned in school and in their families, and do all this in a fun and competitive way," said Avis Matthews, library spokesperson and Black Pursuits committee member.

The Black Pursuits semi-finals and finals will also air Feb. 19 - 26 on Prince George's Community College cable channels 24A and 24B. For more information call library headquarters at 301-699-3500.

## WSSC Responds To Concerns

Reacting to a nationwide broadcast on the CBS television news show, 60 Minutes, on gasoline contaminants in groundwater and wells, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) has reassured its customers that its water supplies have not been contaminated by the gasoline additive methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE), a chemical addition that makes gasoline burn cleaner. The WSSC, which supplies water and wastewater services to Montgomery and Prince George's counties in Maryland, was quick to note that all of its water supplies are from surface water (rivers and lakes). MTBE has not been found in recent samples from its water supplies analyzed at WSSC laboratories, nor in a national survey for MTBE over a year ago.

For further information on drinking water quality, contact the Office of Communications at 301-206-8100, or visit the web site at [www.wssc.dst.md.us](http://www.wssc.dst.md.us).

## City Notes

Public Works' concentration for the week has been on efforts to keep Greenbelt's streets open during the worst snow storm in some time. Crews were called out at 4 a.m. on Tuesday morning and worked through the day until midnight spreading salt and then plowing and cleaning sidewalks. On Wednesday morning, they began early to push the snow back further and clear parking lots, again working through the day into the early evening. Thursday and Friday were spent repairing and maintaining equipment and continuing snow removal efforts.

The Refuse and Recycling crews went out as usual on Tuesday and Wednesday.

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Fellow in American College of Dentists.  
Retired Nov. 1996

#### DR. CLAYTON S. MCCARL, JR.

Fellow in Academy of General Dentistry.

#### DR. JAY MCCARL

Dental Implant Symposium at Boston University.  
Fellow in Academy of General Dentistry.

#### DR. DAVID J. MCCARL

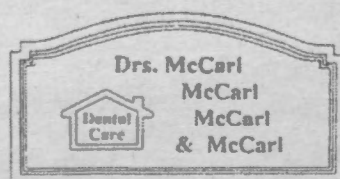
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Tuesday	9-8:30
Wednesday	9-8:30
Thursday	8-4
Friday	8-4
Saturday	8-11:30



## Opsasnick to Be on Inside Edition

Greenbelt author Mark Opsasnick ("Capitol Rock" and "Washington Rock and Roll: A Social History") will be discussing the real story behind the movie "The Exorcist" on the nationally-syndicated television program Inside Edition.

The segment will air on Friday, Feb. 4 at 7 p.m. on Baltimore WBAL Channel 11 and in the Washington area on Monday, Feb.

7 at noon on WJLA Channel 7. The famous movie by William Peter Blatty was based on strange events that surrounded a 13-year-old Prince George's County boy back in 1949. Opsasnick's 26-page article, "The Haunted Boy of Cottage City: The Cold Hard Facts Behind the Story that Inspired the Exorcist," was published in issue #20 of the Rockville based Strange Magazine and can be viewed on-line at [www.strangemag.com](http://www.strangemag.com).

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## Magnet Programs Explained at a Fair

A Magnet Fair will be held on Tuesday, February 8, from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. at Thomas Pullen School, 700 Brightseat Road, Landover. Information on magnet programs and the lottery process will be provided by representatives of the Prince George's County Public School System.

Magnet program applications must be received by February 29; students currently in a magnet program who wish to change programs must also submit an application by that time.

For more information, call 301-952-6044.

Pen a poem for your sweetie. Place it in our Valentine's Day special section.

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**CASHIER** — Seeking hardworking & motivated individuals to work at busy convenience store/service station. We are currently hiring for the 12 noon to 8 p.m. & 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. shifts for weekends & weekdays. Old Greenbelt Citgo, 20 Southway, Greenbelt. 301-474-0046

**WANTED** — Bright, responsible teenager (13-16) to help with odd household jobs. 301-474-2896

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Friday, Saturday - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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10 AM - 1 PM

Registration begins for the 2000-2001 school year.

Interested parents are encouraged to schedule a visit during school hours prior to the Open House.

Call 301-474-5570 for further info or to schedule a visit.

[WWW.Greenbelt.com/GNSK](http://WWW.Greenbelt.com/GNSK)

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BOXED: \$6.25 column inch. Minimum 1 1/2 inches (\$9.38). Deadline 10 p.m. Monday.

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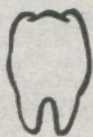
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BY OWNER — \$179,900. 105 Northway (Woodland Hills), substantial renovations, wooded lot, 4BR, anxious, make offer. Pager, 1-800-713-9541, www.gpa-nova.org/houseforsale

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## February Programs at Patuxent

Some of the programs planned for the Patuxent Research Refuge North Tract concern ducks, raptors and owls. All programs are free, but require advance registration. Registration is conducted Tues-Thurs from 1 to 4 p.m. by calling 301-497-5887. Please advise the

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## City Clerk Position Vacancy

The City of Greenbelt, a progressive, diverse community of 21,000, seeks applications for our City Clerk position. We're seeking a professional for a challenging and independent position. The City Clerk provides administrative support to the City Council and City Manager. Major responsibilities include preparation of agendas, reports, minutes of meetings, legislation and Election administration. Applicants must have the ability to compose and edit documents and have strong organizational and interpersonal skills. Bachelor's Degree, Municipal Clerk Certification, or equivalent training and experience required. Submit letter of interest, resume and city application to: Personnel Office, City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, no later than 2/25/00.

refuge of any special needs so that accommodations can be made. For more information, visit the web site: patuxent.fws.gov. Interested persons can become a "Friend of Patuxent" or a Refuge Volunteer and receive a monthly newsletter. The North Tract is located on Rt. 198 between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 32 in Laurel, Maryland.

## Programs

Duck Duck Goose: Fri., Feb. 18, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., ages 5-7. Participants explore the special adaptations of ducks and geese.

Raptors: Sat., Feb. 19, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. or 1-2 p.m., ages 8+. Participants discover the special characteristics of birds of prey.

Owl Prowl: Sat., Feb. 19, 7-8:30 p.m. ages 8+ with adult.

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Thursdays - 7:00 to 8:30 PM  
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Call 301-523-2581 for information.

## Support Group Meets

The Alliance for the Mentally Ill offers free support groups for families and friends who deal with mental illness on February 8 at the New Carrollton Municipal Center — Multi-purpose room, 6016 Princess Garden Parkway, 7 p.m. and on February 9 at the Dyer Health Clinic, 9314 Piscataway Road, Clinton at 7 p.m.

Participants can discover the nighttime world of owls as they look and listen for great horned, screech and barred owls on this guided walk.

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GHI is looking for volunteers to join its newly formed Ad Hoc Electric Utility Deregulation Committee

## Key Committee Goals:

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- Explore ways members and the community can participate
- Explore master metering and bulk purchasing of electricity
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# Goddard "Mad" Staff Stages Wilde Comedy

by Michael Hartman

What do Goddard scientists and engineers do when they are not managing the Hubble Space Telescope servicing missions, Earth Observing System, and the Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite or creating other drama in space? For some of them, they are creating drama right down the street. They are members of the Goddard Music and Drama (MAD) Club. This group of talented singers, dancers, actors, and technicians does a variety of theater projects. They are now working on Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest" which opens on February 11.

The director of the show is Greenbelt resident Barbara Lochner. Katherine Jarva, who plays "Miss Prism," and Kathleen Pugh, who plays "Cecily," also live in Greenbelt. "The Importance of Being Earnest," subtitled "A Trivial Comedy for Serious People," premiered at London's St. James

Theatre on February 14, 1895, one hundred and five years ago. The play's wit and wisdom stand the test of time and are vital and compelling today, as they were when it was written.

The play is about two young roguish and mischievous gentlemen, Jack and Algernon, who have each invented an imaginary companion to assist him in his various pursuits of happiness and excitement. Jack created a brother to help him escape from the country to the city, while Algernon created a friend to help him escape from the city to the country. These two fanciful imaginary chums finally catch up with Jack and Algernon as each gentleman pursues his romantic interest, Jack with Gwendolyn and Algernon with Cecily (Kathleen Pugh). The fact that Gwendolyn is related to Algernon and Cecily is related to Jack only adds to the fun. When you mix in the dowager matriarch Lady Bracknell, the governess Miss Prism (Kathie Jarva) and her

smitten suitor, the Reverend Chasuble, as well as the butler and maidservant, misdirection abounds. It all gets straightened out by the end of the play, though, when the true "Importance of Being Earnest" is revealed to all involved.

"The Importance of Being Earnest" will be launched on February 11, and run February 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, and 26. The production will be staged at MAD's home base, the Goddard Recreation Center, located on the Goddard campus, in Greenbelt.

For tickets and other information about the show, contact Sales Manager Katy Simkins at 301-286-3304. You can also visit MAD's Web Site at <http://nonesuch.gsfc.nasa.gov/mad>.

Each performance starts with a 45-minute musical Cabaret, "A Perfect Night for Love," directed by Jonathan Glickman. The musical Cabaret will feature singers Erica Drezek, Carole Long, Richard Richardson, and Linda Smith accompanied by pianist/director Jonathan Glickman. Show times are Friday and Saturday evenings

at 7 p.m. Cabaret and 8 p.m. Curtain; Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. Cabaret and 7 p.m. Curtain. Complimentary hot hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine and sodas will be served prior to each performance.

The Music and Drama Club at Goddard Space Flight Center proves that not all of the drama at NASA is to be found in space!

## Artists Open House at the Greenbelt Community Center On Saturday, February 5, 2000 noon to 5 pm

On the first Saturday of every month there will be an Artists Open House on the second floor of the Greenbelt Community Center from noon to 5 pm. The next Open House will be Saturday, March 4, 2000.

Artists will be in attendance to display their work and answer your questions, so come by and find out about the Arts in Greenbelt. For information please call the Greenbelt Community Center at 301-397-2208.

## Learn to Ice Skate or Play Hockey In the Great Outdoors!

### Special Upcoming Events:

REGISTER TODAY for ice hockey or ice skating lessons. Classes begin week of Feb. 14. Classes are thirty minutes each week, for six weeks. Plus, you receive six free admissions to public sessions to practice what you've learned. Fees are as follows: Beginner-Intermediate \$60, Advanced \$65, and Hockey \$70. Call for non-resident fees.

**Monday, February 21, Tuesday, March 7 and Monday, March 27—Ice and Easy Days—** 8:30am-4:30pm. Parents looking for something for their children to do when school is out for the day? Join us—your child will have a beginner ice skating lesson, play games, ice skate and have fun. Available for ages 6-12. Admission: \$25.00 per child, per day. Call for before-care, after-care and non-resident fees.

**Defeat the Winter Blues Special:** Offer valid January 31st-February 18th during the following sessions: M-F 12-2:15 pm, M & Tu. 2:30-4:30 pm, or W & F 3:00-5:00 pm. Ice skate for only \$2.00 per person, per session (includes an admission and skate rental.)

**Monday, February 21st—Ice skate from 12-2:15 pm or 2:30-4:30 pm.** The fee is \$4.00 per person, per session and includes an admission and skate rental.

**Adult Pick-up Hockey—** Every Sunday from 9:30pm-11:30pm. Adults 18 and over with full equipment, including a face mask or shield come out for a game of ice hockey. Join the fun. The fee is \$8.25 per person. Call for non-resident rates.

**Group Special—** Bring a group of ten (10) or more to ice skate for the special rate of \$4 per person, per session (includes admission and skate rental). Advance reservations and payment required to receive this special deal! Call for non-resident rates.

**Home School Special—** Fridays from 9:00am-11:00am ice skate with your fellow home school friends. The fee is only \$2 per person, per session (includes admission and skate rental).

**Lunchtime Special Monday-Friday from 12noon-1:00pm or 1:15pm-2:15pm ice skate at the special rate of \$2 per person, per session**

(includes admission and skate rental).

**School Group Special—** Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:30am-11:30am schedule your school group for a special skating session. Only \$2 per person, per session (includes admission and skate rental). Advance reservations and payment required.

### Schedule of Public Skating Sessions

DAY	TIME
Monday	12:00- 2:15pm* 2:30- 4:30pm*
Tuesday	12:00- 2:15pm* 2:30- 4:30pm*
Wednesday	12:00- 2:15pm* 3:00- 5:00pm* 7:00- 9:00pm*
Thursday	12:00- 2:15pm* 7:30-9:30pm*/
Friday, Home School	9:00- 11:00am 12:00- 2:15pm* 3:00- 5:00pm* 7:00- 10:00pm†
Saturday	2:00- 4:00pm 4:30- 6:30pm 7:00- 9:00pm
Sunday	10:30am- 12:30pm 1:00- 3:00pm 3:30- 5:30pm 7:00- 9:00pm

\*Super Saver fee is \$4.00. Includes admission and skate rental. Does not include holidays or holiday schedule and may not be available at all sessions.

†Adult Night only - must be 18 years or over

‡DJ Night - Admission is \$8.00 and includes a DJ. Skate rental is free. (No Group Rates or Multi-Skate Cards accepted).

■ Sunday is Family Night - up to four children free with a paying mom or dad (does not include skate rental).



5211 Paint Branch Parkway  
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(301) 277-3719  
TTY (301) 249-4252  
[www.pgparcs.com](http://www.pgparcs.com)



### Admission Fees

	PG/Mont resident	Non-resident
•Adults	\$4.50	\$5.50
•Children (17 & under)	\$3.50	\$4.25
•Senior Citizen (60 & Up)	\$3.50	\$4.25
•Skate Rental	\$3.50	\$3.50
•Ice Rental (per hour)	\$185.00	\$225.00

Identification will be required to verify residency. College or military Identification will be accepted.



**\$5.00 OFF**

Ice Skating Lessons



WELLS ICE RINK

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Not valid with other offers. Expires 2-19-00

**\$5.00 OFF**

Ice Skating Lessons



WELLS ICE RINK

(301) 277-3719; TTY (301) 249-4252

Not valid with other offers. Expires 2-19-00

### Looking for a New Home?

Get The Information You Need, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

[www.homes-in-md.com](http://www.homes-in-md.com)

Leonard & Holley Wallace  
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2 br with \$14,000 in renovations completed by GHL. All new everything! You'll think it's a new house. It is priced to sell at \$42,990  
**SOLD**  
2 bedroom townhome with extra lot in first floor addition. Brand new kitchen and thousands in other upgrades. \$49,900  
**SOLD**  
What a find - 3 Bedroom block unit on library end of town. Vinyl siding and fantastic front & back yards. You'll love it!  
1 Bedroom unit on lower level with walk-out back yard and large deck. Upfront free. \$49,900  
New Listing - End unit with large corner lot. Backs to wooded area. Perfect for your pet! Lots of extras inside. Check it out - \$49,900

### We Need Homes To Sell!

Sell your home fast and for top dollar - Call now for our free market analysis and selling tips.

3 bedroom townhome - new appliances, cabinets, countertop, carpet, bathroom vanity and more. Large shed, too! \$58,900

3 bedroom home with new appliances, protected roof, new floors, new kitchen, new bath, new through roof. \$49,900  
**SOLD**

You'll like the large deck on the back of this 2 bedroom unit. New cabinets and more being installed. Wide floor plan! \$43,900

2 bedroom townhome with vinyl siding, renovated kitchen and bathroom. Backs to woods. Large sleepers in back. \$49,900  
**SOLD**

2 bedroom townhome just listed. Refinished oak hardwood flooring on both levels. Fresh paint throughout. Vacant & ready! \$43,900

### Now's The Time! We have buyers waiting for brick and block homes.

2 bedroom block home with new carpet, new beautiful landscaping. Call now to see this one. \$49,900  
**SOLD**

2 bedroom townhome with vinyl siding. Fenced back yard with large shed. Ceiling fans included. Close to center - just \$39,900  
**SOLD**

1 bedroom lower level unit with large corner piece yard. Lots of trees and wildlife. Fresh carpet. \$49,900  
**SOLD**

2 bedroom townhome with large covered porch in back yard. More than \$7,000 in just completed renovations! \$36,900  
**SOLD**

3 bedroom townhome. Completely renovated. Lots of new appliances and improvements. \$49,900  
**SOLD**

4 bedroom 3 level townhome unit. Gas heat and central air. Enormous 12'x24' screened porch. Large finished basement. \$49,900  
**SOLD**

**REALTY 1**  
**982-0044**

[www.greenbelt.com/homes](http://www.greenbelt.com/homes)